WRITTEN REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH AUTHORITY

International file number

PCT/EP2004/050570

Field No. II Priority

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1. ☒ The following document has not been submitted:

☒ Copy of the previous Application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(a)).

It was therefore not possible to check the validity of the priority claim. Nevertheless, the report was drawn up on the assumption that the claimed priority date is the relevant date.

Field No. V: Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

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1. Statement

Novelty	Yes: Claims	3, 4, 7 - 9
	No: Claims	1, 2, 5, 6
Inventive Step	Yes: Claims:	
	No: Claims	1 - 9
Industrial Applicability	Yes: Claims:	1 - 9
	No: Claims:	

2. Citations and Explanations:

See appended sheet

Re Point V.

1 In this report reference is made to the following documents:

D1: WO 01/61692 A (TREK TECHNOLOGY SINGAPORE PTE, CHENG CHONG SENG (SG)) August 23, 2001 (2001-08-23)

D2: GB-A-2 252 847 (GEC AVERY LTD) August 19, 1992 (1992-08-19)

2 INDEPENDENT CLAIMS

2.1 The present Application does not meet the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT, because the object of Claim 1 is not novel as defined by Article 33(2) PCT. Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses refer to this document):

A device for programming a controller which is designed as a portable copy-protected plug-in memory unit for storing software (page 2, lines 6 - 11, page 7, lines 11 - 17).

2.2 Claim 5 is the method claim corresponding to Claim 1. Therefore, the same reasoning regarding novelty as for Claim 1 also applies to Claim 5.

3 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2 - 4, 6 - 9

Claims 2 - 4, 6 - 9 contain no features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of PCT regarding novelty and inventive step.

The additional features [regarding] interface, processor, and encryption are disclosed in Document D1. The use of [dedicated] hardware for purposes of encryption is well known

to those skilled in the art and thus does not justify an inventive step. The same applies to the implementation of a method by a computer program and its storage on a data medium.

The use of a portable memory unit for the secure programming of a vehicle controller is disclosed in Document D2.